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JUL 8 1967

Adm. Raborn Heads Program To Encourage Use of Bible

Noted Navy Veteran
Once Directed CIA

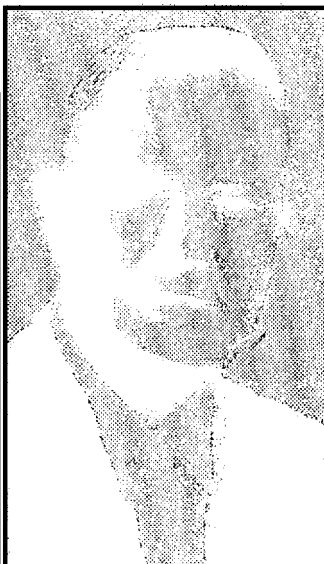
NEW YORK — Vice-Admiral William F. Raborn Jr., United States Navy (retired), vice-president of Aerojet General Corporation, has been named national chairman of an interfaith program for encouraging use of the Bible. It combines the previously separate programs of the American Bible Society and the Laymen's National Committee, which have been united this year in an all-out effort to reach the greatest number of people of all faiths.

National Bible Week and Worldwide Bible Reading will run concurrently from Oct. 15 through Oct. 22. Worldwide Bible Reading will then continue through Thanksgiving for a total of 40 days. The united effort will contain many special features designed to start the habit of daily Bible reading.

In accepting the chairmanship Raborn said, "I'm quite honored to be asked to serve as your chairman for National Bible Week and Worldwide Bible reading... The theme for 1967, 'The Bible: Good News for Modern Man,' seems to be particularly significant because of the difficult and deeply troublesome responsibilities which our country is facing in its staunch support of man's basic freedoms. Certainly the teachings of the Bible are doubly applicable and bring inspiration, strength and understanding to the peoples of the world and their leaders representing the

Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish faiths, who, with others, are opposing the resurgence of the forces of evil."

The concern of a group of businessmen during the dark days of World War II gave birth to National Bible Week. On December 7, 1941, the Laymen's National Committee radio program, commemorating



WM. F. RABORN JR.

the first anniversary of Bible Week, was interrupted with the announcement that Pearl Harbor had been bombed.

LONELY MARINE

And in 1943 a lonely Marine on Guadalcanal sparked the idea of Worldwide Bible Reading by asking his parents to join him in reading the same Scripture passage each day. His mother shared the idea with the ABS, which developed Worldwide Bible Reading. Since then almost 300 million free bookmarks containing a schedule of daily Bible selections have been provided around the world. This year the program takes on special significance with thousands of servicemen in Vietnam expected to participate as did their counterparts during World War II and the Korean conflict.

Raborn's present position is concerned with ways of employing Aerojet's diversified technological capabilities to meet national defense, space and scientific needs. He has previously served as director of the Central Intelligence Agency during 1965 and 1966. Before President Johnson named him to head the CIA, Raborn had been with Aerojet for almost two years a

vice president program management. Before that he headed the Navy's Polaris Fleet Ballistic Missile program. Often called the "Father of the Polaris," Raborn introduced new management techniques which led to the establishment of the Polaris years ahead of schedule.

His "get-it-done" philosophy permeated the Navy's Special Projects group which he led from its beginning in December, 1955 until he was named Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Research and Development in March 1962. Commissioned an Ensign in 1928, he advanced through the grades to Vice-Admiral in 1960. He retired in 1963 after 39 years of Naval service. In addition to the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star Medal with Gold Star, the Commendation Ribbon with Gold Star, and the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon, Raborn has the American Defense Service Medal; the American Campaign Medal; the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one silver star and one bronze star (six engagements); the World War II Victory Medal; the National Defense Service Medal; the Korean Service Medal; the United Nations Service Medal, and the Philippine Defense Ribbon.

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VICE-ADM. WILLIAM F. RABORN JR.

McLean Churchman Named Chairman Of Bible Program

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A member of the Southern Baptist Convention, Raborn attends the Naval Chapel in Washington, D. C. He is also a 33 degree Mason.

He is a native of Decatur, Tex., and his wife is from Baytown, Tex. Their children, Mrs. E. E. Richardson, and William Francis Raborn, III live in the Sacramento, Calif., area.